

Post Fire Rodent Control

July 1, 2026



After a large fire, rodents may move into nearby neighborhoods in search of food, water, and places to hide. Rodents can spread disease, contaminate food with their urine and droppings, and damage property by gnawing on wires and other materials.

Take these three steps to help protect your home from rodents.

1. Keep Rodents Out

- Keep doors closed whenever possible.
- Seal gaps and openings where rodents could enter your home, if possible.

2. Remove Food Sources and Rodent Hiding Places

- Store garbage in waterproof containers with tight-fitting lids.
- Place trash in plastic bags before putting it in the garbage can.
- Keep food in sealed containers with tight-fitting lids.
- Pick up fallen fruit, vegetables, and nuts promptly.
- Do not leave pet food or water outdoors overnight.
- Store pet food and bird seed in metal containers with tight-fitting lids.
- Remove debris, abandoned vehicles, furniture, and unused appliances from your property if possible. These items can provide places for rodents to hide.

3. Trap Indoor Rodents

- If rodents are inside, use snap traps or glue boards.
- Avoid using poison baits.
- Place traps where rodent activity has been seen, such as along walls or known rodent runways or travel paths.
- Check traps daily and dispose of trapped rodents promptly.

Clean Up Rodent Droppings and Dead Rodents

- Never sweep or vacuum rodent droppings or nesting materials. This can release contaminated particles into the air.
- Wear gloves and a mask when cleaning areas where rodents or rodent droppings are present.
- Spray rodent droppings, nests, dead rodents, and contaminated surfaces with a household disinfectant before cleaning.
- Use paper towels or disposable cloths to remove contaminated material.
- Place the dead rodent, used paper towels, and disposable gloves in a sealed plastic bag before placing it in the trash.

- Disinfect reusable tools and gloved hands before removing your gloves.
- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water after removing your gloves.

Report a Problem

If you observe a rodent infestation, you may report this issue by calling **(888) 700-9995**. In addition, you may also [File a Complaint Online](#).

Environmental Health Division

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www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh